

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Volume CII, Number 3



Trentham



Chafin

Bible Conference Speakers Chosen

Charles Trentham and Ken Chafin are featured speakers for the 1978 Mississippi Baptist Convention Bible Conference, to be held March 20-21, at Jackson's First Baptist Church.

The conference, which begins Monday Mar. 20 at 6:45 p.m., includes two messages each by Trentham and Chafin and eight on-going Bible book conferences. Sessions end at 9:30 p.m. Mar. 21.

Trentham is pastor of First Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., in which the President of the United States, Jimmy Carter, holds membership. Chafin is pastor of Houston, Tex. South Main Baptist Church. He is former director of evangelism for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Participants may choose one of the following books of the Bible and take part in five hours of classes on that book: I Peter, Matthew, Ephesians, Romans, Nehemiah, Acts, Hebrews, and Galatians.

Ray Frank Robbins of New Orleans Seminary will teach the classes on I Peter; Harold S. Songer of Southern Seminary will have Matthew; Curtis Vaughn of Southwestern Seminary will have Ephesians; Dale Moody of

Southern has Romans; Stuart Arnold of the Baptist Sunday School Board has Nehemiah; Scott L. Tatum of Southwestern has Acts; Ralph Murray of the Sunday School Board has Hebrews; and Boyd Hunt of Southwestern has Galatians.

Larry Black, minister of music at the host church will lead music for the conference.

Child care for preschoolers will be provided during all sessions of the Bible conference.

Church Architecture

Energy And Design Specialists Offer Info

Church Building Conferences to be held in March at First Baptist Church in Oxford and Temple Baptist Church in Hattiesburg will feature the commercial marketing manager of the Mississippi Power and Light Company.

M. E. Price of the MP&L will join other building and energy specialists in the two conferences set up for convenience to North and South Mississippi residents.

The two sessions will meet at Oxford First, on March 6, from 1:30-5:30 p.m. The Hattiesburg, Temple, session meets March 7 during the same time period.

Joining Price on the program will be James Storey, a Jackson mechanical engineer; Warren McClesky, a Hattiesburg architect; and Nathan Bullock, executive vice president of Church Finance, a Jackson institution.

Dennis Conniff, church architecture consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board has included on the program a number of subjects that should be of interest to church members who are either planning to build, or who are desiring to save money on existing structures.

Program topics include: "Multi-Use Buildings — More Money, Less

(Continued on page 3)

Ongoing Doctrine Study Features "Man" In 1978

Pastors and other persons interested in being trained as instructors for the Baptist Doctrine Study, THE DOCTRINE OF MAN, by William Hendricks, are urged to attend a seminar on March 2 or 3. All of these seminars will be held from 9:30 until noon.

On March 2, the following places are sites for seminars: Washington Association Baptist Center, Greenville; Calvary Church, Batesville; Bayou Church, Gulfport; Copiah-Lincoln Baptist Center, Brookhaven; and Briarwood, Jackson.

On March 3, the following places will host seminars: Fairview Church, Columbus; Bissell Church, Tupelo; William Carey College, Hattiesburg; and Lauderdale Association Baptist

Center, Meridian.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church training Department is sponsoring the seminars.

Joe Odle, retired editor of the Baptist Record will be seminar leader at Washington Association Baptist Center and Fairview Church, Columbus. Joe Tuten, pastor of Calvary, Jackson will lead at Calvary Church, Batesville; and Bissell Church, Tupelo. Fisher Humphreys, professor of theology, New Orleans Seminary, will lead at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, in the Thomas Business Building, Kresge Room; and at Copiah-Lincoln Baptist Center in Brookhaven. Robert L. Hamblin, pastor of Harrisburg, Tupelo, will lead at

Briarwood Church, Jackson; and Lauderdale Baptist Center, Meridian. Billy Simmons, professor of New Testament and Greek, New Orleans Seminary, will lead the seminar at the Bayou Church, Gulfport.

The purpose of this study is to help church members better understand the nature of humanity, survey the ways God has dealt with human beings, and what he is doing with people and for people, explore the implications of human history for daily life, strengthen the ties of church fellowship, and provide a thorough foundation in a major doctrine of our faith.

The suggested time for having this study in the churches is April 17-21, but it could be held anytime during the year.

Simpson Baptists Call Schilling

Simpson County Association has called H. Glen Schilling as director of missions. He has moved to Simpson County from Central Church, Brookhaven, where he had been pastor two and one-half years.

Simpson County Baptists will hold open house and reception in honor of the Schillings, at the missionary's home at Weatherby, (Continued on page 2)

By Walker L. Knight

CIRCLE, Mont. (BP) — Southern Baptists may be big nationally, but in the eastern half of Montana, an area of 73,000 square miles of mountains, ranches and farms, the 12.9 million member denomination is a distinct minority.

For this reason and some others, the constituting of the Circle Baptist Churches in Circle — county seat of McCone County — became an occasion of some note, despite the fact that the church has only 24 members, no property and a pastor who has been on the field only a few months.

Churches are hard for Southern Baptists to come by in these parts. In all of the 73,000 square miles, there are only three associations, representing 18 churches, plus seven church-type missions. These also include two churches on the Northern Cheyenne and the Fort Peck Indian Reservations which are led by missionary couples.

The 25 congregations, by anyone's standards, are small. A church with 100 in Sunday School is medium sized here. Communities in Montana — where ranches are measured in sections (640 acres to a section) rather than acres — are small.

Statistically, Southern Baptists represent only one percent of the 694,000 population of the state. Baptists of all affiliations comprise only three percent of the population.

According to the Southern Baptist Evangelism Index, prepared by the denomination's Home Mission Board, some 51 percent of the people of Montana claim adherence to some church, but Catholics and other non-evangelicals represent almost half of

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Terry Buford (standing) visits with W. J. "Dub" Hughes, a Mississippian from Lincoln County, who is area director of missions in a 73,000 square mile area of eastern Montana. Southern Baptist work is difficult in the huge area and Southern Baptists are a distinct minority. Buford, a bachelor, is pastor of Opheim Baptist Church, the farthest north Southern Baptist Church in the continental United States. (HMB photo by Walker Knight)

Montana "Pioneer" Churches Struggling

that figure.

Circle Church, sponsored by First Baptist Church of Wolf Point, 50 miles to the north, started a little more than a year ago when members of the mother church moved here. A Bible study was formed in an apartment and eventually the Masonic Lodge basement was rented.

Keeping the Circle group strong proved difficult, and when Ray Willis was invited to come in view of a call, only one member showed up for the service. Others were contacted by telephone, and he accepted, encouraged by the fact two adults came on profession of faith and on promise

of a letter during the service.

Willis, a native of Illinois, graduated from seminary in June, and since moving to Circle in July has had professions or additions to the mission nearly every Sunday. The Sunday after the church was constituted, five persons presented themselves for baptism and three more came by letter.

The week following constitution, the church bought property and made plans to build. So far, high attendance

has been 55 persons.

Circle's future is bright, much brighter than for many of the small towns in Montana. It sits astride one of the largest coal deposits in the nation and construction is under way for an industry that will mine the coal for fuel and will manufacture fertilizer. Nearly 3,000 new residents are on the way. It will triple the current population of 1,100.

Area director of missions W. J. Hughes, a six-foot, six-inch giant whose boots and Stetson hat make him appear seven-feet tall, cites half a dozen places in eastern Montana which are responding to the hard work and vision of men such as Willis.

At Glasgow, where Calvary Baptist struggled just to stay alive after the Air Force base closed. Pastor Bob Walker has led the way to new life. A retired Air Force sergeant at the base, Walker had only 12 persons in his congregation on his first Sunday. Now, more than 100 attend as the church continues to grow.

(Continued on page 3)

RAs Will Invade MC Campus For Congress

All Mississippi Royal Ambassadors and prospects for RAs are invited to the 1978 Royal Ambassador Congress to be held March 24-25, at the A. E. Wood Coliseum at Mississippi College in Clinton.

The Congress will feature a number of Christian sports figures on the program, including Paul Anderson, billed at the "World's Strongest Man."

Other sports figures include George Plasketes, All American Defensive End on the University of Mississippi football squad; and Bob Tyler, head coach for Mississippi State University. In addition, Tommy Baddley, pastor

of First Baptist Church in Brandon will be featured.

The congress is set up for boys in grades 1-12 and costs \$10 per person (boys and adults). The \$10 pays for three meals at the Mississippi College cafeteria, lodging at the college, official state congress patch, and insurance.

All meals will be served in the MC cafeteria and each person will need to bring along a sleeping bag or bed roll. RA Chapters with tents are encouraged to camp overnight in space to be provided on campus.

The congress is being sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Brotherhood Department.

Send a \$2 registration fee for each person in the group to R. A. Congress,

Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, along with the leader's name, address and phone number. Tell whether the group will be staying in their own tents.

Registration is due by March 17.

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Evangelism Conference

"God Has Called You And Me To Proclaim With Boldness"

Maurice Flowers, director of missions for Jones Baptist Association, told participants that "God has called you and me to proclaim with boldness the message of Jesus Christ and Him crucified." To preach with boldness, said Flowers, one needs to have "contact with Jesus, an effective fervent prayer life, be filled with the Holy Spirit, and have confidence in God."

"Preaching will never become more real to the man in the pew than it is to the man in the pulpit," said Tommy Tutor, pastor of Holly Springs First Baptist Church.

"The cutting edge of evangelism is no longer in our church building — that's where the baptized are — the cutting edge is out in the shops . . . in schools . . . said Paul Rees,

Bible teacher for the 1978 state Evangelism Conference in Gulfport. The conference is sponsored annually by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Evangelism Department, directed by Roy Cullum.

Frank Crumpler, who directs evangelism planning and consultation for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, used II Sam. 21:15 for his biblical text. "When David killed Goliath, he had not killed his last giant," said Crumpler. David couldn't kill the giant and Abishai had to do it. "You can't win over today's giant with the strength of yesterday's commitments," said Crumpler, bringing the giant killing to the everyday battles of Christian living. "God can use the most unlikely subjects as the object of His purpose," he said, adding "We must really believe that there is more yet to do than we have ever seen."

"Sunday school is my number one ally for young marriages and it's the best structure the church has for ministry in times of bereavement," Chafin said that if a person dies, when he gets to that person's home, "people from Sunday school will have beaten me there by an hour and a half."

He said Sunday school is the best place for training salty the church has.

"Sunday school will provide a valuable source of personnel for loving ministry," he said.



Tom Gambrell, right, of the Baptist Bookstore in Jackson, offered a variety of books during the evangelism conference, a service the bookstore offers during many of the statewide Baptist meetings.



Ken Chafin, pastor of South Main Baptist Church in Houston, Tex., offered participants in the state Baptist Evangelism Conference meeting at FBC, Gulfport, a handle for doing evangelism in the local church. "They call it Sunday school," he said.

It works, he said. "Assuming the goal of Sunday school is ministering to the needs of people," and assuming the worship services fill their needs.

"There's no way to build a church where people don't enjoy going to a worship service," he said.

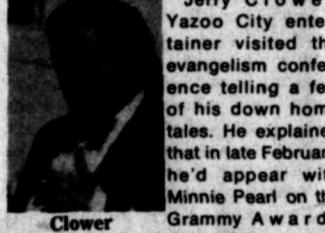
Chafin said that Southern Baptists which have built so strongly on the Sunday school emphasis, "is not giving that same emphasis today." He said that Sunday school is the place in church where community is created, "where people are given identity and discover meaning in life. Community is not established in a preaching service, it's established in a class setting."

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The Churchmen Handbells, a group of musicians from the Mississippi Singing Churchmen, ministered during the evangelism conference with several hymns:



Jerry Clower, Yazoo City entertainer visited the evangelism conference telling a few of his down home tales. He explained that in late February, he'd appear with Minnie Pearl on the Grammy Awards show on television. He said there would be ladies with short dresses, and with dresses split up both sides "almost up to the bottom though they still have a crimp on me. It motivates me to want to go home to mama like God said," said Clower. He added, "That's what President Johnson was trying to say in Playboy, but he ain't as cultured as me."



Robert Cooper, 88, a pioneer church musician from Aberdeen, led a session in music for the evangelism conference. "I started to sing the same year as B. B. McKinney." Cooper led a revival in FBC, Gulfport, where the conference was held last week, 59 years ago. That's a long time between visits.



The Keesler Soul Group sang during one session.



Combined choirs from Gulf Coast and Jackson Associations presented special music.



Rees

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Crumpster

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Baptist Protest Over Israeli Law Continues

By Elizabeth F. Smith

JERUSALEM, Israel (BP) — Baptists across Israel continue to react sharply to recent legislation which has the potential to limit Christian activity and endanger religious liberty.

Under the provisions of the December 1977 law, it will be illegal, as of April 1, 1978, to offer or receive material inducements to change religions.

Faud Sakhnini, chairman of the Baptist association of churches and pastor of Nazareth Baptist Church, said, "Of course we are against any kind of material enticement to be given to people. But," he continued, "everything we do is done to influence people for the gospel, including preaching, teaching and helping. The difficulty lies in the interpretation which may be given to this aid. If it is interpreted that preaching the gospel is against the law, then we are ready to go to jail rather than to stop preaching."

Southern Baptist representative Dale G. Thorne adds: "Actually we are not interested in inducing people to change religion. Our interest is in introducing them to Christ. I don't feel that a person can be truly influenced to accept Christ by physical enticements."

"But the problem of this law is its disparaging attitude toward the Christian message," Thorne continued. "We are commissioned to spread the Christian message. There's possible danger of restricting freedom of Christians and people of all religions."

Robert L. Lindsey, Southern Baptist representative in Israel, said the intention of those who proposed the new law was "to give legal grounds for further intimidation of the Christian citizens and residents in Israel."

The Israel Baptist Mission (organization of Southern Baptist representatives known locally as the Baptist Convention in Israel) and the association of Baptist churches have cooperated with the United Christian Council in its efforts to point out dangers of the law. The 20-member body believes the law offers opportunity to trap Christians and accuse them of bribery.

Although some Israeli journalists call this law the first real anti-missionary legislation ever attempted

in the 30-year history of Israel, a number of provisions exist in various laws dealing with conversion. The criminal code as it exists today also deals with the changing of religion by a minor.

Persons participating in ceremonies for the changing of religion of a minor are subject to a prison sentence. It's also against the law for minors to change religion without written consent of parent or guardian. Minors must change to the religion of one of the parents. Adopted children must be of the same religious background as the adoptive parents.

Jewish leaders have pointed out that

the law does not only include Christians but also Jews trying to induce others to convert to Judaism.

Faud Hadda, Baptist deacon and assistant headmaster of Nazareth Baptist Schools, believes, however, this law is aimed mainly at the Christians "because they are the only group that has a call to go out and teach about Christ to all people. This law," Hadda warns, "could be misused and become a dangerous weapon in the hands of scheming people."

Elizabeth (Mrs. James W.) Smith is a Southern Baptist representative serving in Israel.

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Elkins Outlines Myung Moon Religion

By Mini Ekes

While in Mississippi recently on a lecture tour, Chris Elkins, a former member of the Unification Church, outlined the theology of Sun Myung Moon, founder of the church.

Elkins' activities with the Unification Church were covered in an article which appeared in the Feb. 2 issue of The Baptist Record.

Moon was born Young Myung Moon in 1920 in South Korea and led a relatively uneventful life until 1936, the year Moon claims Jesus appeared to him in a vision on Easter. The theology which Moon developed is reported to have come from this encounter, and is recorded in Divine Principle, a book which has since been rewritten, and is in the process of being written again to seminary to study theology.

Elkins said that Moon received a degree in electrical engineering, and that many of the diagrams in Divine Principle resembled engineering drawings. (Elkins stated that most anyone claiming the vision Moon claims would have gone subsequently to seminary to study theology).

Moon founded the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World

Christianity in 1954 in Korea. His teachings according to Elkins in condensed form follows:

God is masculine and feminine, thus male and female reflect God, but only when the two are brought together can they reflect God fully. God created Adam and Eve at the age of 12, and commanded them to be fruitful, multiply and have dominion over the earth. The two were to be parents of a perfect race.

When Lucifer tempted Eve, it was not with an apple off the Tree of Knowledge as supposed — there was food all around — but rather Lucifer seduced Eve with sex and she in turn seduced Adam. This resulted in tainted blood when Cain was born, and the failure of Adam and Eve to produce the perfect race.

Lucifer seduced Eve because he was jealous — he wanted to receive the love that a child of God received, instead of being a servant. He saw this relationship as his only possibility.

After 2,000 years, Jacob became God's first victor in his defeat over evil represented in Esau. Then 2,000 years after that, Jesus was born of human parents with his mission being to produce the perfect race which Adam and Eve failed to produce. Jesus' mother was Mary, cousin of Elizabeth; both were maidens in the temple where

Zacharias was priest. It was customary for the priests to take sexual liberties with the maidens, and Zacharias fathered both Jesus and John the Baptist.

Jesus' failure due to his early death was blamed on John, who was supposed to prepare the way for Jesus by dropping everything, uniting Israel for Jesus so the Israelites would recognize him as the Messiah. John did not do this, and Satan's victory was realized

when Jesus was nailed on the cross.

God works in 2,000-year periods, and

after Jesus' failure, the next messiah was due sometime around 1920 (the year Moon was born). He and the new Eve would produce the perfect race, with the new Eve restoring all the wrongdoings of the old Eve. (Moon's first two wives failed to accept this position).

Numerology is highly important in Moon's religion. Three, four and 12 are among the good numbers, with six being an evil number. Marriage is essential for salvation, or restoration for evil. But before a member of the church can marry, he has to be responsible for three members coming into the church, be in the movement for three years, and men have to be at least 26 years old and women 24. Moon picks out the mates. His emphasis on marriage was evidenced in the mass marriage of 1975 when he united 1,800 couples. They were sent out into missions before the marriages were consummated.

Man upon perfection, becomes identified with God. Man exists in a three-dimensional world, and upon death enters the fourth, which is a spiritual dimension. Therefore, there is no reason to fear death.

Elkins in his discussions made it clear that he does not believe Moon is the Messiah, which is the reason he left the movement. He said the followers of Moon are given biblical explanations in their teachings, that Moon has Biblical characters down pat, and that any doubts Moonies have are to be dispelled, as they are taught doubts are from Satan.

Ekes is on the staff of the HATTIESBURG AMERICAN.

Thursday, February 16, 1978

Newsbriefs In The



World Of Religion

Englewood, N.J. (RNS) — The head of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America has issued an "archpastoral directive" forbidding parishes to sponsor bingo games after the end of this year. "Bingo," he said, "has been proven to be a detriment which has steadily destroyed the Christian spirit of sacrificial giving. Moreover, bingo is not compatible with our Christian ethics and teaching. How can we teach our children that gambling is sinful and at the same time continue to gamble in our church facilities and otherwise. Gambling in the name of a patron saint cannot and will not be tolerated."

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Accrediting Commission of the National Home Study Council has renewed its accreditation of the Home Study Institute of the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension Department in Nashville. Acting on a report from an examining committee which visited the Seminary Extension offices last fall, the commission granted the renewal "without stipulation."

Luanda, Angola (RNS) — The Marxist government of Angola has shut down the Roman Catholic radio station, Radio Ecclesia, in the west-central African nation. The government's action came after the nation's Roman Catholic bishops, in a joint pas-

toral letter read in all Catholic churches, accused the Neto government of "frequent and lamentable violations of religious freedom," complained that Mr. Neto was carrying on "systematic propaganda in favor of atheism," and had "silenced" Radio Ecclesia.

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Malaysia — Although Southern Baptists have not officially begun mission work in the country of Brunei north of here, some work is being done. Missionary Bobby Evans, assigned to Singapore, has received visa for Brunei. When the visa was received, however, he and his wife, Dorothy, had just begun working with a new correspondence course in Singapore, making it impractical for them to move to the new field at this time. Evans is flying to Brunei for 10 days each month. While there he assists churches in the cities of Bandar Seri Begawan and Seria, according to Mrs. May (Russell A.) Morris, Southern Baptist missionary here.

Simpson Baptists Call Schilling

(Continued from page 1)

Feb. 19 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Schilling attended Mississippi College. He is married to the former Juanita Bond of Pike County. They have two daughters, Connie Taylor and Bonnie Jackson, and two grandchildren, all of McComb.

While in Brookhaven Schilling was president of Lincoln County Ministerial Association, vice-chairman of the Chaplaincy Association, chaplain of the Exchange Club, and chairman of the Joint Missions Committee.

Moonie, stress your trust in Jesus as complete Messiah. To a Krishna follower, point out that Christ cannot be viewed as one among many incarnations of the divine. He is unique.

7. Ask if they are willing to talk more about themselves and their faith. Your offer to talk may come at the right time in their journey. But do this talking in a setting away from their center, where they are surrounded by supporters.

For more information on the "new" sects, write:
Interfaith Witness Department
Home Mission Board, SBC
1350 Spring Street NW
Atlanta, GA 30309.

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Ekes is on the staff of the HATTIESBURG AMERICAN.

tops last year by more than 2.1 million, or 8.41 percent.

Contributions to the Cooperative Program in January totaled \$5,784,485, a record for one month and the second time in Southern Baptist history Cooperative Program giving has topped \$5 million in a single month. The previous record of \$5,328,221 was set in January, 1977.

Total giving in January 1978, including the Cooperative Program amount and another \$7,401,460 in designated contributions, totaled \$13,185,945 — an 8.99 percent increase over January 1977.

NASHVILLE (BP) — Bolstered by an all-time record month of giving, the Southern Baptist Convention's national Cooperative Program unified budget has registered an 8.82 percent increase over last year after the first four months of the 1977-78 fiscal year.

Cooperative Program contributions total \$18,778,808 through January — more than \$1.5 million ahead

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Evangelism Conference . . .

The Task Is Before Us

The Evangelism Conference at First Baptist Church in Gulfport last week sounded a positive note for a return to the basics in witnessing to the lost communities around us and to a lost world.

From an enthusiastic beginning with 1,200 in attendance on Monday evening, the conference continued through its three-day course with a high interest and a good spirit.

Speakers were outstanding and ranged from the calm but probing words of Paul Rees of World Vision magazine to the home-spun wit and pointed remarks of Jerry Clover of Yazoo City. In conversations, appreciation was expressed repeatedly for the messages of Ken Chafin, pastor of South Main Baptist Church of Hous-

ton, Texas.

Others speakers were as well received and provided much inspiration.

The music was outstanding. From the duet by Myrna Loy Hedgepeth and Cecil Harper to a performance by the Keesler Soul Choir, many high moments provided by music during the conference.

In short, it was a fine conference. It was inspirational. It was motivational.

Now remains the work. Such conferences are useless unless they can move us to go back to our places and put our inspiration into action. We must reverse the decline in the rate of baptisms during the past few years. We must reverse that trend by being out witnessing where ever the need is found.

The conference was a mountain-top experience, and it was one that was sorely needed. It is over, however. We could build no tabernacles up there. We have no choice but to descend back into the valley, but that's where the lost are. And, after all, that is what the conference was all about.

Our work is laid out and wellcharted. We can accomplish our mission if we will work out our plans.

To accomplish our task, however, there is one essential ingredient that must be a part of our preparation regardless of how well we have planned. That is time on our knees to lay the work to be done and our efforts in doing it in the hands of the Lord.

Only then can we succeed. After that we cannot fail.

Christian Education . . .

Seminaries, Colleges, Schools Day

Mississippi has three senior colleges among the 46 Southern Baptist related senior colleges in the nation. There are seven junior colleges in the nation that are affiliated with state Baptist conventions, and one of them is in Mississippi. Our state does not have one of the six Southern Baptist seminaries, but one of them is located just across the Louisiana state line in New Orleans. Because there are more students there from Mississippi than from any other state, we sort of feel that it is our seminary.

Thus Mississippi Baptist churches should feel it a privilege to observe Southern Baptist Seminaries, colleges, and schools day on Feb. 19. This will be an opportunity to point out the ministry of our four colleges in Mississippi and examine the reasons that Baptist colleges offer the student a great deal more than would be received in a public institution.

First, the quality of education is every bit as high. The Baptist schools are studied by the same accrediting agencies that observe the public colleges, and the Baptist schools are all accredited. Their professors are every bit as able and as dedicated — if not more so.

Second, not only can the Baptist school provide an education of comparable quality, but it is free to do so from a Baptist viewpoint. Public institutions, of course, are not able to uphold particular denominational beliefs, and we would not want them to. They are using our tax money to provide an education for students, and denominationalism must have no part in it.

Third, the Baptist colleges are controlled by Baptists. The trustees of Mississippi's Baptist colleges are all Baptists, and they are elected during the annual session of the Baptist state

convention.

The four colleges in Mississippi offer these pluses to their students. They deserve the recognition they should receive on this coming Sunday.

Likewise, the six seminaries are doing outstanding jobs in preparing the future leaders of Southern Baptist efforts.

Total enrollment for all the senior colleges for 1976-77 was 121,916. For the junior colleges the total was 8,337.

This makes a total of 129,353 students in Southern Baptist colleges. In addition there were 2,851 in academies and 1,726 in Bible schools.

In all six seminaries there were 10,200 students, and this figure was augmented by 8,449 in extension work.

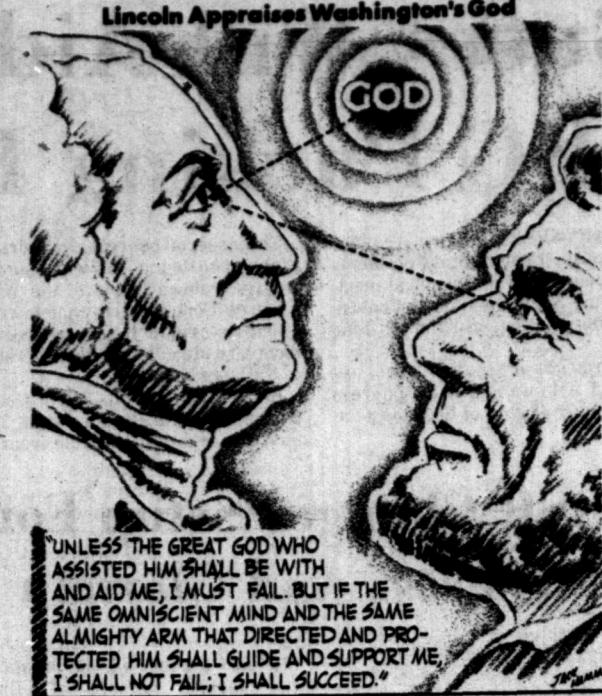
Thus we have a total of 152,578 students studying under Southern Baptist leadership. This deserves some attention.

Lewis Nobles is president of Missis-

Book Reviews

ROADS TO REALITY by Joyce Blackburn (Fleming H. Revell, \$6.95, 158 pp.) The writer selected for this book some of the most sensitive and revealing writings of 17 dynamic women living in modern times. The writers were chosen from all walks of life, and have felt the powerful presence of God in their lives. In this book they share experiences of a very personal nature which reveal how God speaks to them through His Word, how He makes His will known through situations and people, and how their prayers have been answered. Some of those included are Edith Schaeffer, Eugenia Price, Dale Evans, and Catherine Marshall.

SOME RUN WITH FEET OF CLAY by Jeannette Clift (Fleming Revell, 127 pp., \$5.95) The author, star of "The Hiding Place," demonstrates that even Elisha, Hannah, David, Elijah, and Joshua stumbled and erred as they learned to run with human feet of clay. She personalizes the Bible accounts in meaningful terms for the average person and makes the people in the Bible come alive as real and very fallible people so that we can all relate to them and their problems. She says that it is the message of the Bible that is perfect, and not the messengers that God used. Clift's message in this book is that God loves us as we are and will use us in our imperfections, even as He used the people in the Bible for His plan.



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Do you know Florence Powell Harris? She's been a good friend of mine for quite a long time. It's fun to go over to her house in Clinton, taste her gourmet cooking, admire her exquisite objects of art, and talk about the days when she was a missionary in China. She told me the other day that she is 88.

Perhaps you did not know she had two severe heart attacks last year, one in the spring and the other at Christmas when she was visiting her daughter Miriam in Michigan. She is back home now, but is still weak and must rest a lot.

She was born in Mexico, of missionary parents. She and her late husband Hendon were Baptist missionaries to China from 1910 until 1947.

Several years ago Mrs. Harris wrote an autobiography, *How Beautiful the Feet*. It intrigues me because it tells of a way of life in China that I suppose no longer exists.

When the Harrises and three of their children left for a few weeks vacation on Ki Kung (Rooster Comb) Mountain one day in June of 1937 they had no warning that the resort would be a hideout for missionary women and children the next ten months. War broke out and Japanese bombers began strafing Kaifeng, the city where they lived in Honan Province.

When it looked like Kaifeng would be captured by the Japanese, Mr. Harris urged his wife to take the children and go to Hong Kong. He would remain in Kaifeng and continue the work insofar as possible.

After she got her children situated in school in Hong Kong, Mrs. Harris was anxious to get back to Kaifeng. No route, land or sea, was safe. She prayed about the matter, and felt that the Lord was promising to give her strength for the trip. She was determined to try. Later she described the journey in her book:

Suddenly Mrs. E., a casual acquaintance, loomed on the scene and invited me to accompany her as far as Hankow. I felt it an answer to prayer.

This amazing woman, with limited education, had a superb command of our local Chinese dialect. She was widely known for her unbounded brashness.

We packed coffee, sugar, cocoa and canned butter in hampers to take back to our homes. Under the delusion that I would see Hendon in a few days I bought myself a navy blue dress with linen shoes and hat to match, a flattering ensemble, so I thought, in which to greet him.

Trains on the Hankow-Canton railway were not running the day we arrived by steamer in Canton. The next morning, though, we joined the hustling, jostling, panic-stricken throng at the station. Mrs. E. and I occupied two narrow little wooden train seats that faced each other.

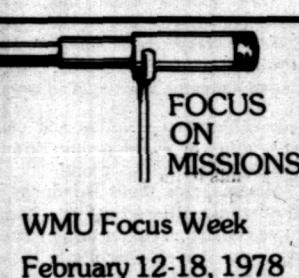
We were hardly settled when my escort decided to go see that the baggage was on board. She warned me that if she wasn't back by 2 p.m. for me to get off the car. Having no watch or knowledge of Cantonese I did not know the time and could not ask. How was I to know when two o'clock came? Finally I did leave the

This was the last, the very last train to Chengchow that reached it safely. The next train was bombed. After that the Chinese pulled up the rails and plowed over their beds for hundreds of miles. Here I was in Honan, my home, sweet home!

She still had 60 miles to go (and she was smuggling in paper currency for the China Inland Mission Hospital) but if you know Mrs. Harris you know she got there!

On the way she happened to meet an Episcopal missionary. He was astonished, "Mrs. Harris! I can't believe my eyes! Last Saturday Dr. Harris said he did not know how you could get home except God provide a way, but for us to pray for your return. I did not have faith enough to believe it possible but here you are in the middle of the Yellow River on your way to Kaifeng!"

If you would like to read more of her missionary adventures in China and the United States, you can order her book, *How Beautiful The Feet*, for \$5.00 plus a quarter postage. Just write to Mrs. Florence Harris, 108 Sunset Drive, Clinton, MS 39056.



Letters To The Editor

Reduced Schedule

Last Sunday was Race Relations Sunday in Southern Baptist Churches. A death in the family caused the writer to be out of the state when this subject should have been discussed previously to the occasion.

Race relations, however, if practiced only on one day, are completely ineffective. Whatever position an individual or a body assumed in the matter of race relations for this past Sunday must be the position established on a permanent basis, or there is hypocrisy present.

Then what should be our posture concerning relations with races other than our own? If an individual or a group is to establish a racial position based on scripture, there seems little doubt of the relationship. The Jews felt themselves to be select people, but Peter's experience on the roof top in Joppa convinced him that he had been wrong. As it will be recalled, when he arrived at the house of Cornelius, who was a Roman, he declared (Acts 10:34, New American Standard Version), "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality."

Historically, peoples of different races and of the same-race have treated those who are different with some lack of respect. The scripture,

Mathis Anniversary

Dear Mississippi Friends:

As all faithful readers of our BAPTIST RECORD will recall, I arrived at the historic three-score-and-ten milepost in the summer of 1977, and many of you have enquired of my plans for the years ahead. Because Mississippians, more than any other group in the world, have maintained a wonderful interest in and support of my work through continuing prayer, I am sending this message to answer wonders.

It is our desire to build a book of letters from church members, fellow ministers, denominational leaders, etc., expressing appreciation for the 20 year ministry of Brother Mathis.

This day of recognition for the Mathis family will be marked by special services, a love gift, and other activities that will be announced at a later date.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of one of our projects designed to recognize 20 years of loyal, dedicated service to this church and the kingdom of our Lord.

It is our desire to build a book of letters from church members, fellow ministers, denominational leaders, etc., expressing appreciation for the 20 year ministry of Brother Mathis. These letters should be written or typed on standard 8½ x 11 paper and returned to us as soon as possible.

Please try to get your letter to us by February 28th. The letters will be bound into a permanent book of remembrance and will be treasured by the Mathis family for many years.

All letters should be addressed as follows:

Letters
Rev. James V. Miller

P. O. Box 2278

Pascagoula, MS 39567

Your assistance in this project of appreciation will be deeply appreciated. We hope to hear from you soon.

Rev. James V. Miller
Associate Pastor

MK Trip Home

Dear Sir:

I am the son of foreign missionaries of the SBC in Italy. I am currently in my freshman year of college. A fellow

missionaries' child has brought to my attention the fact that churches sponsor tour groups to Europe and the Middle East. I would like to go home for the summer, and am wondering if I could take advantage of the flights that these groups charter. Even a one way trip would be a great help.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tim Watts
100 Georgia Ave.
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

Well, you still can use a dime for a screwdriver. — Empire - Courier, Craig, Colo.

The darkest hour has but sixty minutes. — Excelsior, Blakesburg, Iowa.

Truth is stranger than fiction, because fiction has to stick to what you can make people believe is the truth. — Record, Snoqualmie, Wash.

By Porter Routh
SBC Executive Committee

It was just a single dip ice cream cone. Since I am counting calories, I don't eat them very often, but the special for the month was banana nut and the picture on the window of yellow ripe bananas and fresh crunchy nuts was more temptation than I could bear.

It was just a single dip and the digital figure on the shiny new cash register signalled a bright red 31 cents. Thirty-one cents for a single dip. That is another good reason for not buying more banana nut cones.

Age does provide some perspective, and as I lovingly licked the cooling cream, my human computer brought back another day when a single dip

cone was only a nickel — five shiny pennies — with no tax.

How about my pastor? When he buys an ice cream cone for his kids, does he have to pay six times what his daddy paid when he was young? How about our missionaries? In some countries of the world a single dip would be over a half dollar — if you could get it.

That single dip cone got me to thinking about books . . . and boots . . . and beans . . . and beauty shops. The prices have all gone up. And, they are the prices my pastor and his family have to pay. They are the prices my church has to pay. They are the prices our missionaries have to pay at home and — even larger — around the world.

I must think about this more when I worship with my offering. I must think

about this more when our church considers increasing the percent for Cooperative Program — and when our state plans its division.

I really don't need a double dip. — Baptist Program

Annapolis, Md. (RNS) — Acting Gov. Blair Lee III of Maryland has asked the legislature to pass an emergency obscenity law to replace one which was ruled unconstitutional in December. A court ruling on Dec. 12 left Maryland without any laws controlling the distribution of sexually explicit materials. Its decision left in limbo several obscenity cases.

MSC Volunteers Excited About Northern Wisconsin Challenge

MENOMONIE, Wis. (BP) — Their phone rings often with requests for help from people they don't know; church members constantly stop by their apartment in the fellowship hall; their church debt totals about \$3,000 per member and a Methodist church is scheduled to build right next door.

So why are Elgin and Jean Lee so happy?

The first Southern Baptist Mission Service Corps volunteers assigned to Missouri Baptists serve him well in Menomonie, a town with 11,500 resident population where the main influence is the 6,500-student Stout State University, named after early lumber barons. River Heights' youth and assistant youth directors and pianist are Stout students and many other members are connected with the University.

Alice Carter, church clerk and faculty member at Stout State University, explains that the new remaining members had about resigned themselves to closing the doors of the church by Christmas if they didn't get a pastor.

Then the wheels of Mission Service Corps, proposed only in June at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, ground into action. The Lees volunteered for two years service, bringing the name of a donor who volunteered to support them on the

field. The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta learned of the needs of River Heights and asked the Lees to serve there.

"How about that?" Lee says with a comical, questioning smile that reflects amazement at the circumstances. But his eyes revealed a happy man with depth and understanding.

Lee's years as student director for Missouri Baptists serve him well in Menomonie, a town with 11,500 resident population where the main influence is the 6,500-student Stout State University, named after early lumber barons. River Heights' youth and assistant youth directors and pianist are Stout students and many other members are connected with the University.

From July until October, finances kept the church pastorless and the members began to despair. Carter tells Lee that the congregation, which had dwindled to about a dozen, was praying for a miracle and says unashamedly, "You are the miracle."

"What would they have done without the Mission Service Corps?" Lee asks. "This is the tremendous thing about Mission Service Corps. How would we have ever gotten up here? MSC takes the donor and finances, locates the

need and the missionary, and unites them."

Lee says if you're not Catholic or Lutheran, which two-thirds of the people are in the area, "you're not on the map." The community and even some discouraged church members questioned the need of a Southern Baptist church in Menomonie, the only Southern Baptist witness in a 120 mile area.

Associates in the ministerial alliance told Lee, "You mean you consider us a mission field?" But Lee says the telephone calls every week attest to the need of River Heights' witness in "Wild Rice," the Ojibwa Indian meaning of Menomonie.

"The challenge is just overwhelming," Lee says. "Of course the response has been overwhelming in every way. People are joining, attending, going. The response has been overwhelming and the potential is even greater than that. Weekly, we get calls for help."

Although only on the field a short time, the word is already out that Elgin Lee is a pastor who will help, even if you're not a member of his church. "We don't proselyte, but we go to meet needs," he says. As a result, River Heights has visitors in nearly every service.

Lee is endowed with a self-deprecating humor and free flowing speech that puts a visitor immediately at ease. Jean, Lee's tall, eloquent wife of 11 years, is in charge of the church's music and gives piano lessons. She says at River Heights, where attendance has reached 60 in the few short weeks after their arrival, "anyone who thinks they can sing, gets to."

As the homemaker, Jean has overcome numerous problems that living

in a church's fellowship hall can cause. Their apartment is basically one big room, partitioned by the strategic placement of furniture. Visitors ring the doorbell outside the church and one of the Lees must go down the hallway to let them in. They make the same trip to use the restroom.

Lee plans to see River Heights through until it is self-supporting. "Then we might consider becoming pastor here or taking another Mission Service Corps assignment, perhaps overseas this time," he says.

Words of the future are ready talk for a man who leads a church that only weeks ago was planning its final service. But the Lees have the tools and enthusiasm to make it work.

How about that?

Thursday, February 16, 1978

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



River Heights Baptist Church would have ceased operations by Christmas but the first Mission Service Corps couple arrived and Miles and Jean Lee say prospects are now bright for a prosperous church.

Chinese Seminary Student Finds Christ In Mississippi



NEW ORLEANS (BP) — Emily Lau, a religious education major at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, came to the United States from Hong Kong three years ago to obtain a college education. She found Christ in the process.

As she now prepares for full-time youth or social ministry, much of her concern lies in Hong Kong with her atheist family and friends.

"They have found it hard to accept my decision to follow Christ. I feel I have a strong ministry back home, showing them how he transformed me," the Chinese student says.

Miss Lau, 22, sends her family the salary she earns each week working as a secretary at a Chinese church in New Orleans. Her seminary expenses are paid by the First Baptist Church of Columbus, Miss., where she professed Christ and was baptized last year.

Miss Lau first became interested in the Christian life at the International House for foreign students in Springfield, Va. during the Christmas season of 1975. When she headed back to her school, Mississippi University for Women, she had resolved to seek the peace she saw in Christians at the International House.

On each of the buses she rode back to Mississippi, she unwittingly sat beside Christians who spent most of the ride telling her of their joy in Christ. "When I look back, I see how the Lord had a hand in it," she said.

Her salvation was only the beginning since she has now dedicated herself to evangelistic service. Her pastor recommended she visit New Orleans Seminary and she says, "I met such

nice people, toured around, and loved the atmosphere. I was determined to come."

"When she notified her family of the decision, they were displeased and told her they were counting on her to support the family after she completed her bachelor's degree in business administration. The Laus had been withholding from their eldest daughter the news of an illness that had partially incapacitated her father.

"I praise the Lord for my father's illness though, because only through that did I learn humility," the diminutive student says. "Always before it had been easy for me to give, but it took a lot for me to receive. When my college church agreed to support me here at seminary, I was forced to learn grace in both situations. It also taught me that with God, anything can succeed."

Miss Lau terms her first year seminary experience "wonderful." She says, "I am learning from classes and people around me. I enjoy the fellowship, and the opportunity to serve in a Chinese church where we understand each other."

Pressed with the urgency of relating Christ to her family, Miss Lau was stunned this past Christmas with the surprise gift of a two-way ticket to Hong Kong. The ticket was paid for by the girls of her dorm and several faculty members of the seminary family.

Emily spent nearly a month in her home, her first visit there in nearly four years. She returned to New Orleans Seminary aglow with the good news that the Holy Spirit was definitely making progress with her family.

"In the fields of observation, change favors only the prepared minds," Louis Pasteur

I believe the promises of God enough to venture an eternity on them.

No pathway God has ordained will turn out to be a blind alley for you.

Only Prayer Can Do It!

Although the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is a big, visible, measurable part of Bold Mission Thrust, it is not the biggest or most important part of the current emphasis on home missions. Prayer is.

The \$13,000,000 goal of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering can scarcely pay the bill for doubling the number of missionaries, or for enough mass media to reach every American. Yet, the goal for Bold Mission Thrust in home missions is to present the gospel to every American and to organize a congregation with his reach.

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering will help, but only prayer can accomplish the goals of Bold Mission Thrust.

March 5-12 is a week for concentrated prayer for home missions. Pastors will be devoting part of church meetings to specific prayer for home missions, while Baptist Women, Baptist Young Women, other WMU and Brotherhood groups, and families will pray every day.

A poll of missions leaders marked up this list of prayer requests:

*That funds and leadership will be available for a church in Middlebourne, West Virginia, where interest has been expressed. This is

Harrison Gregory, president, WMU, SBC.

*That the development of new black Southern Baptist churches increase, especially in communities where there are no churches, and for HMB-sponsored leadership training for these churches in an orientation program designed for black seminarians in SBC seminaries (Emmanuel McCall, director, Department of Cooperative Ministries with National Baptists, HMB).

*That young couples would adopt infants with special needs from the Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Center in New Orleans. These infants are biracial or have special physical problems (Paul Adkins, director, Department of Christian Social Ministries, HMB).

*That money will be provided for ministry to the American Indians in northern Nevada, 1,500 Vietnamese in San Francisco, the Portuguese in central California. Leadership is needed for Latin congregations. That \$13,000 a year will be available to provide tuition for young ethnic men enrolled in California Baptist College (Jack Combs, director, Language Missions, California).

*That 750 people will commit themselves to serve in homeland Mission Service Corps assignments, and that a church or individual will be ready to sponsor each one (David Bunch, Mission Service Corps coordinator, HMB).

*That more students at Gardner-Webb-Baptist College in North Carolina will be willing to learn to assist deaf students attending the college; for the student revival team that witnesses to the deaf (Jerry Potter, director of Deaf Missions, North Carolina).

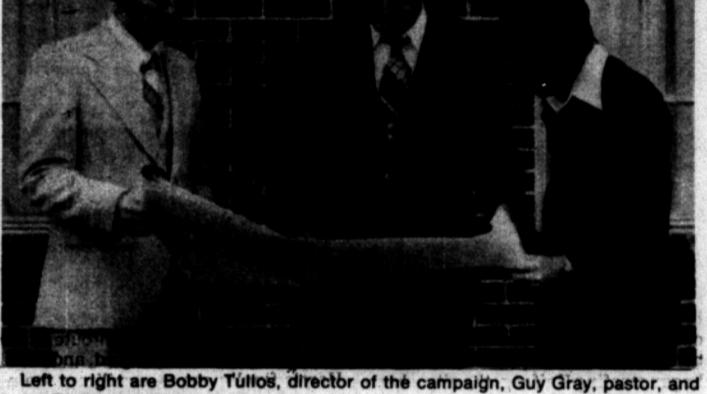
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Left to right are Bobby Tullis, director of the campaign, Guy Gray, pastor, and Larry Banks, co-director.

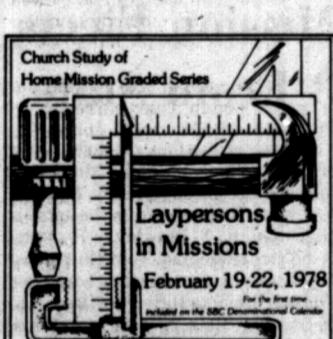
October 12, 1977, the Immanuel Church, Vicksburg voted to enter into the CHURCH BUILDING FUND CAMPAIGN TO RAISE FUNDS TOWARD THE ERECTION OF SANCTUARY AND EDUCATION SPACE TO PROVIDE FOR 600 PEOPLE. The goals set by the church were: Victory—\$75,000; Challenge—\$100,000; Hallelujah—\$125,000.

At the banquet total pledges of \$77,925 were announced. By Tuesday night total pledges had reached \$122,650 and the Hallelujah goal was raised to \$150,000. On Sunday night during the Victory Service the director announced that total pledged to date was \$144,050.

The Church Building Fund Campaign has been a success in the church from the beginning. Monday night following the banquet, one of the men said, "The campaign has been worth it if we don't get another dime." The following Sunday night at the Victory Service, one person after another spoke of the blessings they had received as a result of their participation...They talked of having experienced a revival in their hearts. One of the men said, "There is a better spirit in our church than I have seen in the past 25 years. Our church has experienced a spiritual revival."

"THE CHURCH BUILDING FUND PROGRAM HAS TRULY BEEN A BLESSING TO OUR PEOPLE," says Guy Gray, pastor.

Clarence H. Cutrell of the Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion Department served as consultant.



Men do not stumble over mountains but over molehills.

First, Hazlehurst, Names Holcomb Pastor Emeritus

Rowe C. Holcomb became pastor emeritus of First Church, Hazlehurst, in a special service Feb. 5.

Holcomb began his ministry in Hazlehurst in 1949 and served the church faithfully for over 20 years.

Those taking part in the recognition of his ministry were Chester Vaughn, program director of Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the first minister of education at First Church, Hazlehurst; James H. Brewer, Mrs. Brewer and their daughter, Lisa, and Van Dyke Quick, vice president for student affairs, Mississippi College. Brewer, assistant dean of Mississippi College graduate school and Mrs. Brewer, assistant principal, East Side School, Clinton, were united in matrimony by Holcomb. Quick surrendered to the ministry during Holcomb's tenure as pastor.

Mrs. A. A. Roebuck and Louis Reno presented special music. Reno shared his testimony as one who was baptized

Jackson; Wed., March 8, Thomas E. Ray, Jr., Jackson; Thurs., March 9, Barry Taylor, Jackson; Fri., March 10, Claude Tucker, Jackson; and Sat. March 11, Prince Mtambala, Kwazulu, South Africa.

Seven speakers are scheduled, one for each service. They will be: Sun. March 5 — Jonathan Grant, Georgia; Mon. March 6 — Willie Cousin, Florida; Tues. March 7, Charlie Jackson,

A 500-voice youth choir is being developed by Mrs. Lannie Ree Spann McBride. The choir will sing in each service and will present a concert in the closing service.

Allen A. Griffin and Charlie Jackson are co-chairmen of the general youth crusade planning committee. Leon Bell is pastor of the New Mount Zion Church and moderator of the association.

A poll of missions leaders marked up this list of prayer requests:

*That funds and leadership will be available for a church in Middlebourne, West Virginia, where interest has been expressed. This is

FRONT ROW (left to right): P. B. Perkins, chairman of deacons, Louis Reno, Chester Vaughn, Mrs. Chester Vaughn, James Brewer, Mrs. Brewer. SECOND ROW (left to right): R. E. Green, Committee Chairman, Donald Brown, minister of music, Van Dyke Quick, Robert Hanvey, Mrs. Rowe Holcomb, Rowe Holcomb, Rusty Holcomb, Mary Gaye Holcomb Eichler, Carla Eichler, Mrs. J. A. Box, James Box.

The ministry of Rev. Holcomb and his family will be remembered for many years to come by First Baptist Church and his friends throughout the Convention," stated Pastor Hanvey.

While Holcomb was pastor, Robert M. Hanvey, Pastor, brought the morning message.

Friends from Hazlehurst, Copiah County, and various locations in Mississippi and Louisiana gathered to honor Rowe Holcomb. Mrs. Mary Gaye Eichler and Rusty Holcomb, children of the Holcombs, and Carla Eichler, their only grandchild, were present for the occasion, as were Mrs. J. A. Box and James Box, sister and nephew of Holcomb. Mrs. Eichler is employed by the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. Rusty is a senior at Mississippi College.

Holcomb is still ministering throughout Copiah County. He is presently interim pastor of Shady Grove Church.

"The ministry of Rev. Holcomb and his family will be remembered for many years to come by First Baptist Church and his friends throughout the Convention," stated Pastor Hanvey.

Mrs. A. A. Roebuck and Louis Reno presented special music. Reno shared his testimony as one who was baptized



Just For The Record



THE ROYAL AMBASSADORS and Girls in Action of Oloh Church in Lamar County helped the church more than double the Lottie Moon goal. The R.A.'s and G.A.'s pictured here earned \$549.93 in a walkathon.

The Youth Choir of Priceville Church, Tupelo, held a rockathon to help raise money for their summer choir tour. The young people raised \$900 in the event which lasted from 7 p.m. on Jan. 27 to 7 a.m. on Jan. 28. The choir and the girls' ensemble, Sunshine will sing in Arkansas in July, under direction of Gregg Thomas, minister of music. Robert Daniel is the pastor.

Parkway Church, Jackson County, is renovating the sanctuary. This includes installation of new lights, new pews, and carpet. Also the church is building a new education unit. Kenna Bryd is the pastor.

Members of Unity Church near Lakesville, joined in a fellowship supper Feb. 1, honoring their pastor, Claude Killion and his family upon their moving to another pastorate, Sapa Church near Eupora. He was presented a gift of cash along with words of appreciation. Killion is a graduate of William Carey College, and former student of New Orleans Seminary. His wife, Earnestine is the daughter of J. W. Nolen, retired Baptist minister. They are the parents of three girls; Vicki, Laura, and Gina. There was significant progress during his pastorate at Unity. A new four-room brick pastorum was built under his leadership.

Kreole Avenue Church, Jackson County, celebrated being debt free by burning notes on Jan. 8. Special services were held morning and afternoon with lunch at the church. Joe Blackwell, former pastor, brought the morning message. Zeno Wells, executive director, Jackson County Association, spoke in the afternoon. Wilbur Hall is pastor.

One of the delicate jobs in life is teaching the kids how to avoid hurting other people's feelings without being liars. — Record, Mt. Vernon, Mo.

thing turns out right, I believe in God and His unfailing love for me; when everything turns out wrong, I still believe in God and His unfailing love for me.

We are also to receive each day, each event and each person in that day as a gift from God. If we refuse to receive life and blessing and teaching from the hand of God then we begin to die spiritually.

The spiritual dance can be removed by the Holy Spirit! Then the Lord does something extra. He takes our tears and makes a rainbow. In Jesus there is healing and peace.

Physically, each of us is subject to all sorts of disease, but spiritually we can be as healthy as we want to be in Christ.

Each of us can be one of millions and millions of cells functioning, by the grace of God, in the way that He planned. A healthy cell, contributing to the health of the body of Christ — the church, by constantly maintaining a balance in our lives of giving and receiving.

Isn't it amazingly wonderful that the same God who created our physical body created our spiritual body and the same laws of life and death apply to both?

Jesus said in John 17:19-20, "I pray for all those who will ever come to believe in Me through their word and teaching. So that they all may be one in Us." Why? "So that the world may believe that You have sent Me."

The body, even the tiniest part, the cell, receives direction from the head and power from the heart. Within our spirits we have to receive our direction from Jesus, the Head, and our power from the Holy Spirit, the Heart.

The source of all healthy giving and receiving is always from the heart of God. It is simply made active in us. Why? "So that the world may know Jesus."

Seminary Names Denominational Director

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Paul M. Lambert, general superintendent of the Kansas City Baptist Association for the past 18½ years, has been named director of denominational services at Midwestern Seminary. He is the first person to hold such a position in the seminary's 20-year history.

He will work in the area of ministries resource services, which includes counseling and assisting students who wish to serve in church staff positions, according to Milton Ferguson, Midwestern president.

BAPTIST DOCTRINE STUDY

PREVIEW SEMINARS

"THE DOCTRINE OF MAN"

MARCH 2-3, 1978

Thursday, March 2

Greenville Washington Baptist Center

Batesville Calvary Baptist Church

Brookhaven Copiah-Lincoln Baptist Center

Jackson Briarwood Baptist Church

Gulfport Bayou Baptist Church

Friday, March 3

Columbus Fairview Baptist Church

Tupelo Bissell Baptist Church

Hattiesburg William Carey College

Meridian Lauderdale Baptist Center

Seminar Leader

Dr. Joe T. Odle, Retired Editor
Baptist Record

Dr. Joe H. Tuten, Pastor
Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson

Dr. Fisher Humphreys, Professor
New Orleans Baptist Seminary

Dr. Robert L. Hamlin, Pastor
Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo

Dr. Billy Simmons, Professor
New Orleans Baptist Seminary

TIME... 9:30-12:00 Noon

PURPOSE: To train pastors or other instructors who will be conducting a Baptist Doctrine Study for church members in 1978.



Oakhurst Appreciates Pastor

Oakhurst Church, Clarkdale, recently honored the pastor, Glenn Sullivan, with a Pastor Appreciation Day. The morning service was planned around his favorite hymns; and one of his former pastors, Joe Odle, did the preaching. Testimonies by three members were given. A dish dinner was served in Fellowship Hall at which time special music was provided by the Men's Quartet, the Ladies' Quartet, and the Jubilee Choir (Senior Adults). Sullivan was presented with several gifts. Pictured left to right are his sons, Eric and Haig; his wife, Danny Faye; Sullivan; and Odle. Special guests were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carley Sullivan of Crystal Springs; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Quick of Jackson, and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Faye Jones of Belzoni.

A Picnic In February?

Can you believe a picnic in February? As cold and cloudy and snowy as it has been? Young folks of First Church, Kosciusko, had one — a Groundhog Day Picnic, in fact.

They didn't have to bundle up too much, because the picnic was inside the church. Fellowship Hall was decorated like a picnic ground, with picnic tables, barbecue grill, plastic plates and forks, the whole bit.

What was on the menu? Ground hog, naturally. Sausage dogs and ham sandwiches.

Berry C. Corbett, minister of youth and 36 young people came to the picnic. Pastor Ed Gandy came too, and his inspirational talk added warmth to the winter picnic.



Gives Quilt To Pastor

Mrs. Annie Kersh, left, one of the oldest members of Rock Hill Church near Brandon, gave Shirley and Vance Dyess, right, a quilt for Christmas — one that she had made herself. Dyess is interim pastor at Rock Hill. Mrs. Kersh, 88, has been an active and faithful member. Because she loves her church and doing things for others she has made and given 34 quilts to friends and relatives. She and her husband, before his death, enjoyed keeping many of their pastors in their home for a week or for overnight.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

James Bickham, minister of music for East McComb Church, was coordinator for the District Keyboard Festival held at First Church, McComb, on Jan. 26. Buddy Casey was incorrectly named as the coordinator in last week's Baptist Record.

Herman McAlpin of Sumrall, former pastor at Runnelsstown, is in Veterans' Hospital, Jackson. He was scheduled to have open heart surgery on Monday of this week.

Sue Ellen Page, director of the Orff-Schulwerk and Children's Choir program at the Hochstein Community Music School in Rochester, NY, will direct the Laurel Children's Choir Festival and Workshop to be Feb. 18 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Laurel. This year's festival will involve close to 90 children, grades 4-6, from choirs of First Baptist, First United Methodist, First Presbyterian, and St. John's Episcopal Church in Laurel. The workshop is sponsored by the Laurel Arts League and these churches. It is made possible through the Mississippi Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts. All who are interested may attend. The registration fee is \$7.50.

Mrs. William Waller, former Mississippi First Lady, will present a study lecture on the restoration of the Governor's mansion on Tuesday, Feb. 21, from 12:30 p.m., in the Media Center on the campus of Mississippi College. The program sponsored by the Mississippi College art department, will feature a slide presentation of the mansion restoration. During her term as First Lady, Mrs. Waller researched and restored the Mississippi Governor's Mansion which has since been designated as a Registered National Historic Landmark — the second governor's mansion in the U.S. to be so designated. Other achieve-

ments include the naming of a state animal, the white-tailed deer; a state fish, the large-mouth bass; a state water mammal, the porpoise; a state sea shell, the oyster shell; and a state water fowl, the wood duck.



William S. Hardin, 6509 Bowline Dr., Sarasota, Fla., and Mrs. Hardin celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Jan. 9. He also celebrated his 50th year as a Baptist pastor — in Drew, Miss.; Titusville, Venice, and Sarasota, Fla. Mississippi natives, they were married on Jan. 9, 1928 in Clinton. They graduated from Mississippi and Hillman Colleges. Hardin also graduated from Southern Seminary. Mrs. Hardin has served as church organist and has been active in youth and adult organizations.

Oak Park Church, New Orleans, ordained David E. Buck, Jr. on Jan. 25 to the gospel ministry. Buck is a graduate of Davidson College and New Orleans Seminary. He is serving as assistant pastor of Oak Park. He plans to pursue his education at Princeton University working toward his doctorate. He is married to the former Phyllis Wagner and they have two daughters. He grew up in the Colonial Heights Church, Jackson. Those participating in the service were Joe H. Cothen, Fisher Humphreys, Claude Howe, Olin Strange and the pastor of the church, Russell McIntire. Buck's father, chairman of deacons at Oak Park, presented the Bible.



Beyond the Ironing Board
White Fencer

You just can't thread a straight pin, can you?

The other day James and I were traveling, and I was working on a quilt square as we rode along. Suddenly my needle broke, and I woefully said, "Oh, now I'll lose this whole three hours' work on my quilt."

James said, "We won't let a little thing like a broken needle bother us, will we?"

"Well, all I have is straight pins and I surely can't thread one of those."

"There are stores all along the way which sell needles."

"Fine. Let's buy some."

Stopping at the next town, we went needle-shopping. As I looked at the packages of needles, figuring that as many needles as I knew were at the house, I would not need to buy a large supply, I picked up a package that heralded itself as a group of self-threading needles. Surely such a package belonged on the joke counter. But as we read it and looked at the illustrations, we decided that, sure enough, it should work. So we bought the package.

And, sure enough, no more aiming the bifocals on that trip. Simply enough, I followed the instructions, held the thread and needle between thumb and forefinger of one hand and sprung the thread down into the eye through a very tiny slot at the top of the needle.

Broken needles and straight pins with heads instead of eyes notwithstanding, the pesky situation turned into a nice experience, a new experience, and a new tool for me to use for as long as I can find the needles to buy.

A really small example this is, to be sure. But no matter the measure of many experiences, often something good and lasting can come from them. There are a bunch of things in life which are a lot more important than self-threading needles, I am aware, but the point is that we let the broken needles get us frustrated and peeved, but that we find the working out of things an indication of life's abundance.

Action!

Will the ACTION enrollment plan work in a small church? It worked in the Tinsley Church in Yazoo Association. According to Philip Duncan, pastor, the Tinsley Church had a Sunday School enrollment of 73 with an average attendance of 50 prior to Enrollment Sunday.

Adhering to the prescribed procedures recommended in the ACTION Manual, 50 new members were enrolled. During the month following ACTION, the average attendance went from 50 to 74.

Duncan says, "In spite of some extremely bad weather, those participating were still enthusiastic and displayed a very positive attitude toward reaching people."

You are urged to consider the results of the ACTION Enrollment Plan as used at the Tinsley Church. Then make your plans to be a part of the state-wide ACTION enrollment emphasis for 1978, especially during the month of September.

Bangladesh Mission Elects 3 From State

Three of the four elected officers of the Bangladesh Baptist Mission for this year are Mississippians. James E. Young of Thomaston is the mission chairman. R. T. Buckley of Picayune is the vice chairman. Tom Thurman of Monticello is the mission treasurer. The fourth elected officer is Danny Hill of Georgia. He serves the mission as secretary.



USE ELECTRICITY WISELY

Only you can determine the amount of electricity you use, so conserve it whenever possible. A few tips:

Make sure your home is properly insulated . . . keep thermostats at 68 degrees in winter, 78 degrees in summer . . . conserve hot water and use appliances wisely. For a free folder on how to save, contact your nearest MP&L office.



New Sects Claim Allegiance Of Confused Young Persons

By George Sheridan

ATLANTA (BP)—Twenty-one-year-old Emily was searching for people who "made God a dynamic part of their lives."

She thought she found them in 1974 when she joined the Unification Church. Moving into a Charlotte, N.C., church center, Emily sold flowers from early morning until past midnight, raising about \$200 a day.

When she failed to meet her \$200 quota, she would be humiliated by leaders who made her feel she was disappointing God and denying people "the blessing of giving."

While at Charlotte, Emily also cooked breakfast and packed lunches for 40 people, getting up at 5 a.m. after only four or five hours sleep. She was

continually tired. But she loved the work. "I felt needed," she said.

After more than a year and a half, Emily went to Washington, D.C., to participate in the church's Bicentennial rally at the Washington Monument.

There Emily met an old friend who urged her to visit her mother. The church gave Emily permission—a turning point in her religious pilgrimage.

Emily's mother arranged for a former member of the church to "de-program" her. Emily resisted at first but then she "put the whole situation in God's hands."

Emily left the church in 1976.

Her experience with the Unification Church was much like those of many

young persons dealing with the more than 1,300 new religions that emerged in the U.S. since 1965. These sects, ranging from Oriental philosophy to "Jesus people," have been the principal feature of a decade of religious resurgence in the U.S.

In addition to the Unification Church, they include Hare Krishna movement, the Church of Scientology, the Hold Order of Mans, The Way, the Divine Light Mission and followers of various gurus, meditation forms and even diets.

The groups surviving into the late 70's are generally small. The Unification Church numbers only about 3,000 core members. But hard-core, primarily young adherents make them more than "a transitory cultural aberration," says Jacob Neddleman, professor at San Francisco State University.

They are, instead, Neddleman says, "a central feature of the profound change through which America is passing."

According to a Gallup survey, most of the participants in the new sects are 18 to 24 years old. Of all the persons surveyed, only 25 percent are still involved. But that is enough to cause a slow rise in memberships.

The sects are also gaining financial stability. Several own vast tracts of real estate and major interests in financial and health institutions.

The Church of Scientology, one of the older "new" sects, was founded in 1954 by L. Ron Hubbard, a former Hollywood movie director and writer of science fiction. His religion is based on the assumption that humanity is basically good and seeks to survive, but is burdened with a painful past and by sins.

Hubbard left directorship of the church in 1966 but continues involvement in church operations and receives a large income from it. In May, 1977, the Church of Scientology claimed worldwide membership of 5.1 million.

Last year representatives of the Divine Light Mission (DLM) of child guru Maharaj Ji reported dramatic changes in philosophy and organization. The guru's extravagant trappings were largely eliminated; his dictatorial leadership status revised. Devotees no longer kiss his feet; the concept of him as God incarnate and perfect master is fading.

Recently the mission closed its health clinics and businesses except for a food cooperative in Denver, location of its headquarters. Its 1976 reports indicate some 300 persons live in DLM "ashrams." Monthly income, through gifts and earnings, totaled \$315,000, up from \$200,000 the previous year.

Tickets to the concert may be purchased through the mail from Oak-land Heights Baptist Church, 5718 Fifth St., Meridian, 39301. Ticket prices are \$5, \$4, and \$3 for reserved seats and \$2 for general admission.

However, any church group that purchases a block of 15 or more seats in the \$4 or \$3 sections may reduce the price of each individual ticket by \$1. This offer does not apply to the \$5 or \$2 sections.

Mrs. Sherry M. Thompson, 32, of Jackson, died Feb. 1 at Methodist Hospital in Memphis after a long illness. She was the step-daughter of Mrs. Ina McFall of Braxton, employee of the Baptist Record.

The funeral was Feb. 4 at Wright and Ferguson Funeral Home in Jackson.

Survivors other than her step-mother include a 14-year-old daughter, Lisa Thompson of Jackson; her father, Oscar McFall of Braxton; a foster child, Mrs. Carla Buzzard of Joplin, Mo.; two brothers; and three sisters.

Mrs. Thompson, born in Louisville, Ky., had spent the greater part of her life in Jackson. She was a graduate of Central High School and was executive secretary for Carter Equipment Company for several years. She was a member of St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

About 1969, two predecessor groups, "Teens for Christ" and "Revolutionaries for Jesus," merged. Both had been dominated by David Brandt Berg—also known as "Moses" or "David Moses." Berg rests atop the Child of God pyramid.

As "God's saved people," the Children of God emphasize the last days. Converts are taught to mistrust any teachings but the sect's own.

Anyone can join the International Society for Krishna Consciousness in three immediate steps: chant the "maha-mantra"; observe the society's strictures against meat-eating, gambling, illicit sex and ingesting intoxicating substances (including drugs, alcohol, coffee and tobacco); and dedicate one's life to Krishna.

Between 3,000 and 5,000 persons live in the 30 Hare Krishna temples in the United States according to the New York temple public relations director. Perhaps three times that number attend the temple on weekends but are not full-time devotees.

Moon founded the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of the World Christianity—the Unification Church in Korea in 1954 and brought it to America in the early 70's. The church's guidebook is a "revelation given by God to Sun Myung Moon." The church claims centers in 120 American cities.

The theology and practices of the church have moved the National Council of Churches and several individual denominations to issue statements denying it is Christian.

Why are so many young persons attracted to these new religions?

Of several hundred Unification members surveyed by J. Stillson Judah, professor in the Graduate Theological Center in Berkeley, Calif., half were between age 22 and 26 when they joined the Unification Church. Most were college dropouts.

Fifty-two percent said their parents were regular church goers; 29 percent considered themselves Christian before joining. But few saw themselves

Max Lyall To Give Concert At Parkway

Pianist / composer Max Lyall will present concerts of sacred piano music during morning worship services at Parkway Church, Jackson, Feb. 19. Bill Causey, pastor, said Lyall will participate in services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Lyall is assistant professor of church music at Golden Gate Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, California. He is noted as a keyboard soloist and accompanist, vocal soloist, composer and arranger. Triangle Records, Nashville, released Lyall's "Authentic Original" featuring hymn-tune piano improvisations in 1977. He has been featured as piano and harpsichord soloist with the Nashville Symphony, Nashville Chamber Orchestra, Nashville Symphony String Quartet and Nashville Philharmonic chorus and orchestra.

Lyall is accompanist for The Centurymen of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

He is currently completing his dissertation for the doctorate of musical arts degree in piano at the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

Thursday, February 16, 1978

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

R&TV Gives Abe Lincoln Annual Awards

Evangelist Billy Graham has been awarded the Distinguished Communications Medal by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Ft. Worth. He was lauded for his unique position in American and world history and for "persistently presenting the claims of God" in a world of constant change.

In addition, Richard M. Schafbuch of Denver's KOA Stations and Charles Thornton, Jr., general manager of WTRI Radio, Brunswick, Md., have received the 1978 Abe Lincoln Awards from the commission. The Abe Lincoln Awards are given for outstanding service to the industry and to the broadcaster's home community.

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Leach, Hearing Aid Specialist, 708 E. Fortification, Jackson, Ms. or call 352-4811.



Truth To Sing At Meridian, Oakland Heights

TRUTH will perform in the Temple Theater in Meridian on March 2 at 7:30 p.m. This concert is being sponsored by the youth of Oakland Heights Church.

Tickets to the concert may be purchased through the mail from Oak-land Heights Baptist Church, 5718 Fifth St., Meridian, 39301. Ticket prices are \$5, \$4, and \$3 for reserved seats and \$2 for general admission. However, any church group that purchases a block of 15 or more seats in the \$4 or \$3 sections may reduce the price of each individual ticket by \$1. This offer does not apply to the \$5 or \$2 sections.

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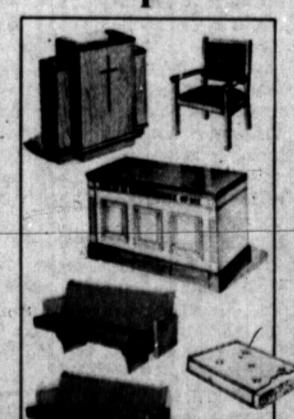
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Staff Changes

Green's Creek Church of Petal has called Ricky Hamm as part-time minister of music and youth. Hamm is a graduating senior at the University of Southern Mississippi where he will receive a B.A. degree in church music in May. Ralph Kelly is Green's Creek pastor.

Mike Chandler is the new minister of music for Four Mile Creek Church, Jackson County. Donnie Boutwell is pastor.

Jan Cochran is now serving as minister of music at Martin Bluff Church, Jackson County. Ray Moncrief, pastor.

Presidential Firsts

Calvin Coolidge was the first American President to have his inaugural address go out to the country over radio.

John Quincy Adams was the first President to wear long trousers instead of knee breeches at his inauguration.



Poplar Flat Church, Louisville (Winston) has called Ben Mitchell as pastor. He had served as interim pastor since August. He and his wife Nancy were from Dalton, Ga., where he was active in jail, nursing home, and cassette tape ministries. Mitchell is working on his B.A. degree at Mississippi State University and plans to attend New Orleans Seminary.

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as strong or active Christians.

More than a third had used hard drugs; 16.5 percent had arrest records, mainly for drug offenses. Before joining the Unification Church, 42.5 percent said they had opposed authority. Almost all approve authority now.

Many see the new sects as attracting dependent minds which don't know how to think for themselves. "After you become a member," claims one critic, "there is no more thought, only recall."

Emily Hill, herself deprogrammed, feels she was susceptible to recruitment because she wanted to be an active part of the Christian movement but found many Christians weak in their commitments.

Until Christian churches provide a comparable sense of community and purpose, Hill says, they will continue to lose many young people to "the new sects."

Missionary Prayer Calendar To Be Published Quarterly

The Brotherhood Commission and Baptist Sunday School Board are combining their efforts to involve Baptist men and boys in prayer for missions.

Beginning with the April-June, 1978 issue, the two agencies will offer Southern Baptists a Bible readers guide with a missionary prayer calendar.

The Sunday School Board will publish the quarterly prayer calendar while the Commission will advertise it through publications to men and boys and include it on the Brotherhood periodicals order form.

Cost of the prayer calendar is 10 cents per copy in bulk and 50 cents a year for a single subscription.

Glenda McCullough, executive di-

rector of the Commission, said the missionary prayer calendar provides in one compact piece a plan for systematic prayer for Southern Baptist foreign and home missionaries and daily Bible readings for Baptist men and Pioneer Royal Ambassadors.

Names of home and foreign mis-

sionaries are listed on their birthdays as objects of prayer.

Off The Record

GOOD LISTENER

Lord Randolph Churchill, father of Sir Winston, was a man of impeccable courtesy, who never interrupted a speaker, no matter how tedious the re-

ception. One night at his club, he was cornered by a bore who began to recount a dull story. After some minutes, Lord Randolph could stand it no longer. Excusing himself, he walked over to one of the attendants and said: "Will you please listen to him until he has finished? I have to leave."

ANTISEPTIC

A child's persistent sniffing annoyed a woman standing next to him. "Young man," she demanded, "have you got a handkerchief?"

"Yes," replied the child, "but my mother won't let me lend it to anybody."

NEW THOUGHT

"You want more salary? Why, my boy, I worked three years for fifteen dollars a month right in this store, and now I'm owner of it."

"Well, you see what happened to your boss. No man who treats his help that way can hang on to his business."

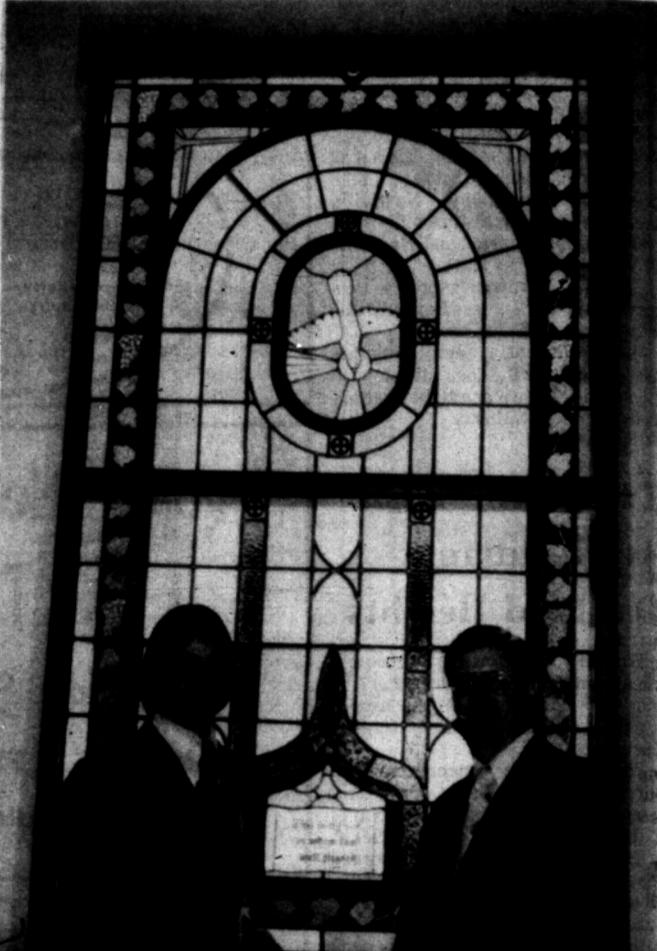
You can't choose your ancestors, but that's fair enough. They probably wouldn't have chosen you, either.

Elderly Man: "I read that in our city a man is run over every 30 minutes."

His Wife: "Poor fellow!"

A professor once spent a long time figuring out why professors are absent-minded. But he forgot the answer.

UNIFORM ONE MIL BAPTIST RECORD SLC



Ingomar Remodels Sanctuary

Ingomar Church, New Albany, recently completed the remodeling of their sanctuary. Part of the project included the installation of 12 original stained glass windows. Each window depicts some aspect of the life of Christ. Shown admiring the finished work with the pastor, W. Frank Lay (right) is George Waldron of Expressive Stained Glass of Byhalia, who designed and made the beautiful windows.

MINIMUM EDITION MARCH 1978

Uniform Lesson

Meeting God In The Sanctuary

By Hardy R. Denham, Jr.
First, Newton
Psalms 84

The scriptures contain a strong emphasis on worship. Public worship, or the assembly of God's people, is an aspect of this activity which is strongly emphasized. In a definite sense worship is the greatest act of which man is capable and the most important thing he does. In worship a man recognizes his creaturehood and he acknowledges the Lord as the Creator and giver of life.

Worship was a place-centered activity in the period of the Old Testament. While other peoples worshipped multiple gods in a variety of places or temples, the Hebrews worshipped the one Lord in the one place where He put His name (Deuteronomy 12:5, 11). That place where God first put His name was the tabernacle built in the wilderness (Exodus 25-31, 35-40), and later the temple built by Solomon in Jerusalem. Since name and personhood are synonymous in the Old Testament, the tabernacle and temple were places where God dwelt in a special sense.

The 44th Psalm is a hymn about worship and the God who is worshipped. It declares the psalmist's love for the place of worship and loyalty to the One who was worshipped.

I. The Delight In The Place Of Worship — Verses 1-4.

The sanctuary where God was worshipped was a place the psalmist longed to enter. He considered the place to be one of exquisite beauty (verse 1). This was true of the interior of the tabernacle, or portable worship place that served the Hebrews before the permanent temple was built. It was even more true of the temple built by Solomon. It is possible for people today to spend too much money building church facilities, but a disservice is done our God and the duty of worship if the places where men meet God in public worship are not places of beauty and dignity.

However, for some unknown reason the psalmist had been kept from the place of worship (verse 2). He experienced a deep-seated longing to be in the "courts of the Lord." Some who have been kept from public worship because of illness know what the psalmist felt.

The psalmist delighted in the place

of worship because it was a place of refuge and blessings for all. Reference is made to two very common birds — the sparrow and swallow (verse 3). The sparrow represented the insignificant (Matthew 10:29, 31; Luke 12:6), and the swallow, the most active of birds, represented men who live life in high gear. It makes no difference who or what a man is, he needs to worship. Life is immeasurably blessed through worship (verse 4).

II. The Dividends From The Performance Of Worship Verses 5-9

The first dividend specified is strength for living (verse 5). The most sensible translation of this verse is that through worship men find the strength to travel the ways they must go. How often one feels he cannot do what he must do, only to pause in worship and discover the strength needed. A friend of mine has a plaque on his office wall that declares, "Hang in there." God gives the strength to do just that, and men find it in worship.

The second dividend presented is prosperity in life (verse 6). The valley of Baca stands for a desolate and difficult experience. It can be called a valley of tears or one of deep shadows. However, as a result of worship it is transformed into a place of beauty and refreshment. Through worship a person can turn sorrows into joys and sadness into happiness.

The third dividend is the knowledge of God's approval. The psalmist expressed a prayerful plea that the Lord would look upon his face (verses 8-9). Even though the anointed one may have been the king, it is also possible that this is a petition that the Lord would look with favor upon the worshiper. Certainly this is true for even though one is not to worship God for selfish reasons, the Lord does look upon the faithful worshiper with approval.

III. The Declaration About The Priority Of Worship—Verses 10-12

The psalmist felt that the sanctuary was the best place of all to be (verse 10). As he thought of the places where he might spend his life and the activities in which he might engage, none compared to the place and performance of worship. Having recognized the dividends to be derived from worship, what greater thing could the man

do than to worship God continuously. Things should happen when men meet God in worship that would cause them to return for another great time in God's house.

The priority of worship is stressed by the truth that the Lord honors those who put worship first (verses 11-12). The Lord is described as the sun and shield of the believer. He is the One who provides sight and safety. Men stumble in the darkness of spiritual ignorance and become victims of Satan's wiles because they fail to put worship first in life. How much better

life would be for millions if they would only reorder their priorities and put worship first.

I read about some boys who broke into a store one night. They did not steal anything but they did change the prices of everything. Thus the next morning the clerks discovered that expensive objects were priced for only a few cents while cheap items were highly priced. Men have changed the values of life and one activity that is rated as useless is the practice of worship. This psalm puts the right evaluation on worship. It must be given priority.

Life and Work Lesson

The Lord's Prayer

By Bill Duncan, First, Long Beach
John 17

There is a very funny television ad that always gets my attention. The idea is, "When E. F. Hutton speaks, everyone listens." The conversation stops, business stops, action stops to eavesdrop.

Our lesson this week is eavesdropping on God. Without question, John 17 is holy ground. Some Bible scholars call it the "center of sanctity." The reason so much attention is given to the passage is that it is a prayer or, even more important, it is a conversation between Jesus and His Heavenly Father. To study the passage is as if you were eavesdropping on a dialogue between Jesus and God. By our study of the passage we get a firsthand look at the mind of God. Therefore it is proper to read this with awe. Here is the great "high-priestly prayer of Jesus Christ" spoken for our benefit.

Jesus Prays for Himself (verses 1-8)

For Jesus, life was for the cross. To Jesus the cross was the glory of life and the way to the glory of eternity.

There is only one way to glorify God and that is to obey God. Jesus glorified God on the cross by rendering the perfect obedience in the perfect love.

Jesus prayed to God to glorify Him and to glorify Himself. The cross was not the end. The resurrection was the vindication of Jesus. The glory of the resurrection obliterated the shame of the cross.

For Jesus the cross was the way back. Barclay said that Jesus was like a knight who left the king's court to perform some perilous deed, and who having performed it, came home in triumph to enjoy the visitor's glory. Thus the cross was His gateway to glory.

The New Testament definition of eternal glory can be found in John 17:3, "This is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent." Eternal life is nothing other than the life of God. To know God is to know what God is like, and to be on the most intimate terms of friendship with God. Neither of these things is possible without Jesus Christ. Though Jesus we know what God is like; and through Jesus we enter into the friendship of God.

It is Jesus' claim that He showed to

men the true nature and the true character of God. He brought God so near that the humblest Christian can take the unutterable name of God upon his lips.

Jesus' Prayer for His Disciples (verses 6-19)

In Jesus' prayer for His disciples He asked for four things: (1) He prayed that they would be preserved from the power of the present world. (2) He prayed that they would have unity. (3) He prayed that they would have joy. (4) He prayed that they would be sanctified (set apart for a holy purpose) by God Himself. Because Jesus said that He did not pray for the disciples only but for all those that believe in Him, He certainly made these same requests for all believers for all times.

Christians are in a special circle of His care, love, and intercession. These words are comforting and sustaining to our hearts. Jesus is praying for us.

Jesus promises to get the job done, to be glorified in His followers. It is a humbling experience for a Christian to know that He will use them as instruments in His hands for the accomplishments of His holy purposes!

Jesus prayed for the unity of His disciples. His prayer was that they might be one as He and His Father are one.

Missionaries On Furlough

Missionaries now on furlough in Mississippi are:

Stanley and Glenna Stamps, Nicaragua, 208 E. Main St., Clinton; Bill and Terry Peacock, Korea, 3331 Old Canton Road, Jackson; Bob and Flora Holifield, Italy, 2324 Coronet Place, Jackson; Tom and Hazel Barron, Indonesia, 921 Jackson Ave., Columbia; Major and June McDaniel, Korea, 818 Main St., Natchez;

Dot Lott, Brazil, 606 Graymont Ave., Hattiesburg; Jimmy and Charlotte Watts, Italy, 100 Georgia Ave., Hattiesburg; John and Elizabeth Merritt, Germany, Univ. of So. Miss., Southern Station, Hattiesburg; Russell and Anna Herrington, Costa Rica, 520 Magazine St., Tupelo.

Devotional

A Cheerful Giver

By Evie Landrum Goodrich, Clinton

"God loveth a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9, 7b). Being stewards of our possessions should cause us to pause frequently and ask ourselves what kind of givers we are.

Some years ago, Dr. W. E. Denham spoke at our State Baptist assembly and he brought a most inspiring message on the subject of giving. He quoted the verse that God loveth a cheerful giver. He used the Greek word hilarious instead of cheerful and then gave the following illustration:

"Suppose I came into my dining room on my birthday and each member of my family greeted me coolly and then casually gave me a gift and said, 'This is your birthday and we feel that we should give you a gift.'

Actually they really prepared for him an hilarious celebration and sang "Happy Birthday" and happily presented gifts to him. He received the gifts gladly because they were given by loving members of his family.

That sermon made me examine myself and I have tried to improve upon the spirit of giving. When we give grudgingly, we are not numbered with the hilarious givers.

As we meditate upon the gift that God made in giving His only Son to save us, we are sure that His gift exceeded any gift that we can make.

We should be thrilled that God has blessed and prospered us with something to give, and we should practice thanking Him and ask Him to use our gift so that it will glorify His name.

(NOTE: The writer is the widow of A. L. Goodrich, a former editor of the Baptist Record.)

ACE Says Extension Courses Will Rate Three Hours

transfer Seminary Extension courses to degree programs have received only one hour of credit per course completed. As a result of the ACE recommendation, students in the future may receive three hours of credit per course.

Courses submitted for evaluation by the ACE were among the most popular offered in Seminary Extension's College-level curriculum series.

Thirty-nine college-level courses are listed in the current Seminary Extension catalog, along with 14 basic

(easy-to-read) series courses. Seminary Extension is a department of the six theological seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Although the ACE project applies to home study (correspondence) courses only, the Seminary Extension courses involved are used both in home study and in study in Seminary Extension centers. Teachers in centers must hold a master's degree or its equivalent and must be certified by the Seminary Extension Department.

Bold Mission Emphasis Gets Resource Helps

NASHVILLE — The Southern Baptist Convention's emphasis on Bold Missions is receiving some practical assistance from the church training department of the Sunday School Board.

Southern Baptists and Missions — A Study Packet will be available to churches April 1, according to the

church training department. The new packet contains resources for a four-session special study unit to be used by adult and youth church training groups.

The packets, which cost \$4.15 each, are available from the Materials Services Department, Sunday School Board, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.



Education Commission Meets

The Mississippi Baptist Education Commission met recently on the campus of Mississippi College to discuss the role of Christian higher education in the state. Meeting with Kermit McGregor, right, Chairman of the Commission, are Baptist college presidents (L-R) S. L. Harris, president of Clarke College; Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College; Ralph Noonester, president of William Carey College; and Harold Fisher, president of Blue Mountain College.

He prayed that they might live, "not as units, but as a unity." Where there is disunity, the cause of Christianity is harmed and hindered.

If a man is to serve God, he must have something of God's goodness and God's wisdom in him. This is why Jesus prayed that His disciples would be consecrated by the truth.

Jesus Prayed For Future Believers

As Jesus prayed this prayer, we see His complete faith and confidence in the future. At that moment His followers were few and they were shaken in their faith. Yet His confidence was unshaken in the future because of His confidence in His disciples. He knew they did not fully understand Him and His Kingdom. To these men He looked with confidence to spread His name throughout the world. It is the great characteristic of Jesus that He never lost His faith in God or His confidence in men.

What was His prayer for the church to be? It was a unity of personal relationship. It was to be that unity which would convince the world of the truth of Christianity and of the place of Christ. The unity that the church should have would require supernatural explanation.

Unfortunately, the world sees a church today that seems to suggest that Christ's prayer has gone unanswered. While trying to keep the world out of the church, we have isolated the church from the world. The absence of unity has hindered the spread of Christian faith. But the confidence of Christ in the church has not died. He continues to encourage and direct the church to be of "one heart and mind." What keeps the prayer of Christ from being answered in your life?